THE

Chriſtian Hiſtory;

Containing Accounts of the Propagation and Revival of Religion in *England Scotland* and *America*.

Saturday DECEMBER 31. 1743. § N°. 44.

Continuation of Mr. Robe's *Narrative.*

BUT, Oh! Behold, GOD *ſo loved the World, that he gave his only begotten* SON, *that whoſoever believeth in him, ſhould not periſh, but have everlaſting Life.* JESUS has born the Wrath and Curſe of GOD; for the Law condemned Sinners, that deſerved to die the Death, CHRIST has dy'd in the Sinners Room: The Blood of the SON of GOD, has been ſhed inſtead of the Sinner's: JESUS gave his Life a Ranſom for Sinners, to ſatisfie offended Juſtice, and procure our Redemption from all Miſery unto all Glory; to ſave us from Sin and Hell, and to bring us unto GOD. And GOD is ſo well pleaſed with what his dear SON has done and ſuffered for Sinners, that he can be gracious to them, and has promiſed to exalt his Grace, magnify his Mercy in forgiving their Sins, and ſaving their Souls unto Life eternal; even to the Chief of Sinners, to every and all of them will GOD be thus gracious, that come unto him by JESUS CHRIST.--- Are you convinced then, my dear Children, that you are miſerable Sinners, and muſt periſh for ever, if GOD of his infinite Mercy doth not ſave your Souls? Then conſider, CHRIST is the *Way* to the FATHER. GOD invites and commands you to believe on his dear SON, to come unto CHRIST for Life; and by him to GOD the FATHER, for all that Grace and Salvation which your periſhing Souls want. CHRIST is able to ſave you to the uttermoſt; and ſo he is willing to ſave every poor Sinner that comes to him; the SAVIOUR invites heavy laden Sinners, even all that are weary and burdened with Sin, to come unto him, and has promiſed to give them Reſt. And no one Soul that cometh unto *him*, will he in any ways caſt out. ---- Come then, my dear

Children, caſt yourſelves as periſhing Sinners, at the SAVIOUR's Feet: And you ſhall find Mercy. The Arms of CHRIST ſtand wide open to receive returning Sinners.---- And if you would find Mercy with him, bring nothing with you but your Miſery. ---- CHRIST ſaves all freely, without Money, and without Price, without any Worth or Worthineſs: The SAVIOUR don't look for theſe, in the Souls that he ſaves; but only calls them to come to him in all their Miſery, to receive that full and compleat Salvation which he prepar'd for them, and will beſtow upon them freely. And no Soul that comes, let him be ever ſo poor and miſerable, wretched and blind and naked, ſhall be ſent empty away. And wait my dear Children, wait patiently for the LORD, for he hath ſaid, "*They ſhall not be aſhamed that wait for me.*" And with CHRIST, in CHRIST, you ſhall find Life, eternal Life, and ſhall obtain Favour of the LORD.

And unto you my dear Children *that have found* JESUS, *and the Comforts of his Love in his precious Promiſes to your Souls*; unto you I ſay, That none of all your Enemies, Sin, Satan, nor wicked Men, ſhall ever pluck you out of your SAVIOUR's Hands. He will give you eternal Life, and you ſhall never periſh. The LORD that hath begun to ſave you, will ſave you to the uttermoſt. He that hath forgiven your Sins, will ſubdue your Iniquities. "*The* GOD *of Peace will bruiſe* Satan *under your Feet ſhortly.*" That little Spark of Grace which he hath enkindled in your Souls, ſhall not be quenched by theſe Waters of Sin, that Sea of Corruption which ſtill abides in your depraved Nature: Tho' Sin and Grace war in your dear Souls, yet Grace ſhall get the Victory over Sin. The LORD JESUS, the Captain of your Salvation, will vanquiſh all your Corruptions, trample theſe your Enemies under his Feet, and cauſe you to ſet your Feet upon the Necks of them: Yet a little while, and theſe Enemies, which purſue and affright your Souls to Day, you ſhall ſee them no more for ever: They ſhall ſink as Lead into the mighty Waters of the boundleſs, all-overflowing Grace of GOD, and the infinite Merit of the SAVIOUR's Blood; and you as the Redeemed of the LORD, ſhall ſing the LAMB's NEW SONG, and ſay, "*Unto him that loved us, and waſhed us from our Sins in his own Blood, and hath made us Kings and Prieſts unto* GOD *and his* FATHER, *To Him be Glory and Dominion for ever and ever.* Amen.

Oh

Oh dear Souls! you that have a painful feeling of the working of Sin within you, have the forgiveneſs of Sins thro' the LAMB's Blood: Your Sins are forgiven you for his Name's Sake, and GOD has wrought the new Life of Grace in your Souls, or elſe the Workings of Sin would not grieve you: If you have a painful Feeling of the Body of Death, it is becauſe you are alive from the Dead: And becauſe CHRIST lives, you ſhall live alſo; becauſe, he lives for you and in you; and his Life, will ſwallow up all your Death. That Death of Sin which now works in you, ſhall ſhortly be ſwallowed up of perfect Holineſs, Joy and Life for evermore. And mean Time your Saviour will ſuccour you under all your Sorrows, compaſſionate your Souls, under all your Griefs from the Being and Working of indwelling Sin, and give ſeaſonable Grace to ſtrengthen you againſt Corruption and Temptation: The Grace of Chriſt is ſufficient for you, and his Strength ſhall be made perfect in your Weakneſs.--- And lo, your Intereſt in Chriſt, and in God thro' him, doth not in the leaſt depend upon your Frames, nor ſhake and totter, as they alter. Your Beloved is yours, and you his: He hath betrothed you unto himſelf for ever, and hateth putting away: He will never caſt you off for your Vileneſs, for all that you have done. And God has engaged in his new Covenant, to be a God, a Father to you, and you ſhall be his People, his Sons and his Daughters: And hath ſworn that he will be no more wroth with you, that his Kindneſs towards you ſhall never depart, but ſtand firmer than the Mountains and Hills, out-live Time, and run on its own everlaſting Round to an endleſs Eternity.--- And as for your Acceptance with God, it is quite out of yourſelves; it ſtands alone in the Perſon, Blood and Righteouſneſs of Chriſt, who is yeſterday, to Day, and forever the ſame: God the Father, has made you accepted, everlaſtingly accepted in Chriſt, the Beloved of his Soul. And in him you have an everlaſting Standing in divine Favour, that is quite independant upon your own inherent Goodneſs. God accepts you my dear Children for Chriſt's Sake, --on the Account of what he is, and hath done, and not on the Account of what you are, or can perform; Salvation is all of Grace, a mere free Gift to the Chief of Sinners. The Wages of Sin is Death: But the Gift of God is eternal Life thro' Jeſus Chriſt our Lord. Therefore my little Children, abide in Chriſt by Faith. Run daily, as periſhing Sinners,

unto him the great Saviour; and there you ſhall be for ever ſafe from the Storms of God's Wrath, and eternally ſolaced with his preſent Favour. Into the Arms of Chriſt I commit you, as his tender Lambs, to be carried ſafe in his Boſom, thro' a World of Trials into a World of Glory: And am your's moſt tenderly in Jeſus, *&c.*"

At CUMBERNAULD.

IN the Pariſh of *Cumbernauld* the Concern among that People hath continued publick and diſcernable all this *Winter*; there being Perſons newly awakened from Time to Time.--- There is great Oppoſition to the Lord's Work in that Congregation, by the *Seceders*, and Perſecution as far as Mocking and the Tongue can go, as there is alſo in the *Eaſt* End of this Pariſh---- it is remarkable that the firſt Day the *Seceders* preach'd at *Cumbernauld*, which was in *February* laſt, there was a greater Stir and more ſenſible Outcry in the Congregation at the Kirk, than had been for ſome conſiderable while before. --- Alſo *next Lord's Day* when the *Seceders* had Sermon, there was a *Lad*, who when he was entering into the Place of their Meeting, caſt his Eyes towards the Kirk, when this Thought came into his Mind, "What Reaſon can I give for "forſaking the Miniſter, and following theſe Folk"? which troubled him ſo, that he went ſtrait from the Place of their Meeting, to the Kirk, where he was awakened and brought to a deep Concern about his ſinful and loſt State.---- It is alſo talked that he was carried to the ſeceding Preacher, who adviſed him to mind and apply himſelf to his Work. --- A judicious Chriſtian in the Bounds, having ſaid, That was the Way *Cain* took, who went to build Cities, ſuffers their Spite, for this juſt Thought.

Other Pariſhes to the Weſt.

Thoſe in the *other Pariſhes* to the *Weſt* of *this*, who appeared to have got a deſirable Iſſue of their Awakening; continue to make Progreſs, and walk as becometh, and have the ſame Temptations, Doubts, Fears & Difficulties that Converts in former Times had.

St. NINIANS.

The Rev. Miniſter of the Goſpel at St. *Ninians*, by his to me of the 19th Currant, [*March* 1742,3.] writes, "That "*Impreſſions upon our People are far from wearing off*; their "Behaviour is ſuch as that their Enemies themſelves cannot "quarrel;

" quarrel; and hitherto they behave very well: It would " give you great Pleaſure to hear them pray and converſe. " Our Audience is moſt attentive to the preaching of the " Word.

GARGUNNOCK *and* KIPPEN.

The Rev. Miniſter of the Goſpel at *Gargunnock*, by his to me of the 17th Currant *March* [1742,3.] writes, " That " *the Concern there in a great Meaſure continues*, their *Fellow-* " *ſhip Meetings increaſe:* That even the ChildrensMeetings " for Prayer continue; their outward Concern continues " even in the Publick; a diligent attending upon Ordinan- " ces, Love to our GOD and REDEEMER remains, and to " all the Children of our LORD's Family; and eſpecially " crying toCHRIST and rejoycing in him, with a ſober and " blameleſs Converſation·"--- He writes alſo, " That there " are ſtill ſome under ſpiritual Concern in the Pariſh of " *Kippen.*

MUTHEL *and* MONYVARD.

In the Month of *January* [1742,3.] when I heard laſt from *Muthel* the Rev. Mr. *Haly* writes, " That *the Work* " of GOD *was ſtill going on in his Congregation*, and that " there were then *ſeveral newly awakened*:" concerning whom he writes --- " That they appeared to have been " touched to the Quick, the Arrows of the ALMIGHTY " ſhot to their very Hearts, trembling like the *Jaylor*, cry- " ing out againſt Sin, breathing and thirſting after a SA- " VIOUR. My Bowels were moved for them, and I hope " the Bowels of a compaſſionate REDEEMER were yearn- " ing over them, when they were with *Ephraim* bemoan- " ing themſelves. --- I muſt tell you as a Token for Good, " *a praying Diſpoſition among this People not only continues, but* " *is upon the growing Hand.* Beſides what of that is with " particular Perſons and Families, *our praying Societies are* " *increaſing.*--- We have now *thirteen of them*, and *a new* " *one going to be ſet up.*--- I cannot expreſs how much I am " charmed with the *youngOnes.* We have now *three praying* " *Societies of them.* One of them at about *two Miles* diſtance " from this, pay'd me a moſt agreeable Viſit upon the *firſt* " *Monday* of *the Year*; a Day that young People eſpecially " uſed to be otherways employ'd---we had I think upwards " of *forty* of them; they continued in Prayer and other " Exerciſes till about ten at Night. But O! to hear the

" *young*

" *young Lambs* crying after the GREAT SHEPHERD; to " hear them pouring out their Souls with such Fervour, with " such beautiful Expressions, with such copiousness and ful- " ness, did not only strike me with *Admiration*, but melted " me down in *Tears*. *I wished in my Heart that all Contra-* " *dicters, Gainsayers, and Blasphemers of this Work of* GOD, " *had been where I was that Night.*" He also writes, "That " the Rev. Mr. *Porteous* Minister of the Gospel at *Monyvard*, " told him there was some stirring in his Parish.

Since the preceeding Account was put into the Printer's Hand; I have received the following later Accounts -- The Rev. Mr. *Haly* in a Letter to me of the 29th of *March* [1743.] writes, " That *the Concern in that Congregation con-* " *tinues*, in hearing the Word, tho' not with such a Noise " and Outcrying as formerly. And tho' the *publick Awa-* " *kenings* be not so discernible, as they were sometime ago; " yet few *Sabbaths* pass, but, *saith he*, we have *some pricked* " *in their Hearts, and with great Anguish of Spirit crying*, " WHAT SHALL WE DO?---A Law-work is still severe, " and of long Continuance with many; but the LORD is " supporting, helping to wait, and keeping them thirsting " after Relief in CHRIST.--- Others who, as I judged, had " *their Wounds bound up*, have them *fall a bleeding again*; " and when the LORD hides his Face they are exceedingly " troubled, and almost are as much upon the Rack as for- " merly.--- They are but Novices in Religion, and know " but little of the LORD's ordinary Way with his People, " which makes them think, that there is no Sorrow like to " their Sorrow, no Case like theirs --- But they will gather " Experiences, and the LORD will teach them, that he is " dealing no otherwise with them than he uses to do with " them that love and fear him."

There are several hopeful Appearances in the Rev. Mr. *Porteous*'s Parish of *Monyvard*; such as an unusual Attention to the Word; setting up the Worship of GOD in many Families where it was formerly neglected; the *setting up, and increase of praying Societies*; and a noticeable Concern among many *young Ones*, of whom they have *two Society Meetings*.

CRIEF.

There have also been for some Time past publick and discernible Awakenings in the Parish of *Crief*, where the Rev. Mr. *Drummond* is Minister. *Several have there fallen under spiritual*

ſpiritual Trouble and Diſtreſs. And *ſeveral praying Societies are ſetting up there.*

KILSYTH, CUMBERNAULD, KIRKINTILLOCK, CAMPSIE.

I have now, this 18th of *April*, [1743] to add unto the preceeding Account of the State of Religion in this Country-ſide, that *publick and diſcernible Awakenings continue in this Congregation*, reaching *even ſome* of the *elder Sort*; particularly *yeſterday*, when there appear'd a *general Concern* upon the Congregation. Not unto us, not unto us, but unto the holy and bleſſed Name of our GOD, the ſole Author of it, be all the Glory.---At *Cumbernauld* the *Concern ſtill continues publick and diſcernible*, and *new Awakenings from Time to Time.* --- I'm likewiſe informed that in the Pariſhes of *Kirkintillock* and *Campſie* there are Inſtances of *new Awakenings.*

Several other CORNERS.

Beſides the Places already mentioned in this *Narrative*, where there have been or are yet diſcernible and remarkable Awakenings; there are good Informations from *ſeveral other Corners*, concerning various promiſing Tokens for Good, which afford probable Evidences not only of ſome Succeſs of the Goſpel, but of ſuperiour Degrees of Succeſs, ſurpaſſing former Years; ſuch as more careful Attendance on Sermons, both on *Sabbath-Days* and *Week-Days*, and on Catechiſing: More ſerioufneſs in hearing; more Inclination to Societies for Prayer, moſt remarkably, tho' not merely, among the *younger Sort*; which ſeems by the divine Bleſſing, to ſet *others* a thinking: More reſort to Miniſters for private Inſtruction: Religion more the Subject of Converſation: And comfortable Accounts given by private Chriſtians, not only to their Miniſters, but one another of the Benefit which they hope they reap by the Ordinances in their reſpective Congregations: As alſo earneſt longing and much fervent Prayer, for a greater and more general Reviving.

Such comfortable Accounts, are not only from ſome *Country Congregations*, but from ſome of the *principal Cities* of this Land.---At *Dundee*, Meetings for Prayer, and a praying Diſpoſition in them, with Chriſtian Knowledge, do ſtill increaſe. Upon the laſt Week of *March* they had *two new ones ſet up*: ſo that they have now *above twenty of theſe Meetings*, and *in ſeveral of them* between *twenty* and *thirty Perſons.*--- There are alſo come to my Hand certain Informations,

tions, of a promiſing Concern beginning to appear in *ſome Congregations* in the *South weſt* Corner of *Fife* beſides what has been at *Torryburn*---- I have alſo lately Letters from ſome of the Lord's People from *Angus* in the *North*, and near the Borders to the *South-eaſt*; expreſſing the moſt earneſt Deſires, and longing for ſuch a Reviving, in the Corners where they dwell.

Thus have we given the Reader Mr. ROBE's general *Narrative of the extraordinary Work in* Kilſyth *and* other Congregations *as far as has yet come to Hand; to which we now add* Extracts *out of* private Letters *which came in the laſt Ship from* SCOTLAND, *and therewith cloſe our Accounts from thence at preſent.*

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Mr. McLAURIN *of* Glaſgow *to the Rev. Mr.* EDWARDS *of* Northampton, *dated* Aug. 10. 1743.

" --- As to the State of Things with us, I muſt chiefly refer you to thoſe Parts of Mr. *Robe's* Narrative, I now tranſmit. Beſides the Places mentioned in thoſe Prints, there are comfortable Accounts, tho' comparatively ſpeaking perhaps not ſo conſiderable, nor ſo notour concerning ſome Parts of the Counties of *Roſs* and *Murray* far North, and ſome Parts toward the South, about the Borders of *England*, and other Parts near the Heart of the Land."

(To be continued.)

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